From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 02:48:26 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 95 18:09:52 HST
From: jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu (Jeffrey Herman)
Message-Id: <9502090409.AA11812@kahuna.math.hawaii.edu>
Subject: Re: "T" is for "Toroid"

That was good, Joe!

I received an email from someone who has tried
to make capacitors out of foil. So, we can make inductors, caps,
resistors (from pieces of carbon that we mined ourselves), but
what about amplifying devices? I contend that a vacuum tube is much
easier to make than a transistor. I believe that someone over on
the Boatanchors list even made a crude but workable tube.

So I propose the following challenge to my fellow `build it from
scratch' qrp'ers: Within one year from today complete a transmitter
from components that you've made yourself. Let's limit the
amplifying devices to just two (oscillator and amp).

I'll let Chuck decide what the awards should be.

Jeff NH6IL

P.S. You don't have to make the base materials (wire, foil, etc.) -
I'll let you scrounge around for them. And no devices that emit
illegal emissions (such as spark); only pure CW allowed.

P.P.S. Oh, alright! I hear you grumbling. We'll have a 2nd catagory -
commercially made amplifying devices permitted but nothing else
commercially made allowed.

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 03:21:24 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 23:00:51 -0800 (PST)
From: Alan Kaul <kaul@netcom.com>
Subject: Re: "T" is for "Toroid"
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502082246.A20649-0100000@netcom16>

A nifty home brew capacitor can be made out of an insulating layer of
PVC- type pipe and two different sizes of aluminum (or copper!) tubing.
Slide the PVC over the smaller of the tubing and the larger tubing around
the outside of the PVC. Attach your electrical connections to the two
tubes -- and as one slides into the other, they vary the capacitance!

I used one in a home brew gamma-matching device for a small Yagi. Then

liked it so much that I adapted it for a similar tuning capacitor used to tune a coil to match the center conducter of a Bob Tail Curtain.

As long as you use QRP, PVC works as a fine insulator. Wrapping it with electrical tape ought to allow you to push the power levels a bit higher.

I took the Bobtail curtain to Hawaii 3 years ago, on 10M and used it with the Radio Shack SSB rig. Battery powered, on the beach, with the 3-elements of the Bobtail hanging between 2 trees, I worked about 35 countries using 5W and batteries (both SSB and CW). Capacitor worked well!

GL Jeff, and others who want to try it.

[<Alan Kaul, W6RCL>] kaul@netcom.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 14:37:45 1995
Date: Thu, 09 Feb 1995 08:08:28 -0600 (CST)
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: 30-40 board error?
Message-Id: <01HMU718OZLUCRL1ZH@tntech.edu>

I finally opened my 30-40 kit and have started to get ready to build

> I opened the large envelope and found a PCB (silkscreened and solder
> masked), manual, bag of parts and 4 small envelopes with the additional
> parts that could be easily confused if mixed in with the rest. One
> envelope had the FTXX-43 cores and another the FTXX-61 cores (these are
> not color coded so are difficult to tell apart). Another envelope had
> the wire for winding the toroids and the zener diodes (taped to a sheet
> and labelled).
>

Did I order from the wrong place.. the PCB I received is a plain inexpensive board with no silk screenint!! no solder mask..all I got was a sheet with parts placement

> Annoyance number 1 was the parts list/silkscreen. The parts list
> doesn't give values for the resistors as these are marked on the board
> overlay in the manual, but parts designators aren't marked on the
> silkscreen. There was also one error on the silkscreen - C1 is labelled
> as C2.
>
I checked and it appears as though C1 and C2 are correct

> Annoyance number 2 - the IC's were loose and wrapped up in a piece of
> aluminum foil - not in foam. Two of the IC's had the pins bent right
> over. This can be a real problem if you're not very careful
> straightening them out.

one of the sockets was missing a leg and many damaged.. really
poor packing.

I appreciate these types of reviews.. really nice to know what you
are getting into.. before you build.. especially things like turns
on L1 and having to put the cap across it. Didn't look yet, is the
cap included.

Really interested in hearing why I got a much different PCB.

73,72

Jeff, AC4HF

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 04:36:00 1995
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: Another NN1G review coming up
Date: Thu, 09 Feb 95 01:05:24 EST5EDT
Message-Id: <1995Feb09.010524.21398@wb3ffv.ampr.org>

I wrote up a review of the Benson 4040 rig, sent it to the QRP
Quarterly but it was not used in the Jan issue; might be in the April
one. Sorry, this file will NOT be available on request via e-mail--I
learned my lesson on doing that :-)   May post some of these things to
an FTP site some day, though--that's only sending the files one time
instead of dozens :-)   73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ
--
Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ wb3ffv.ampr.org
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 23:26:44 1995
Date: Thu, 09 Feb 1995 15:44:08 -0600 (CST)
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: buy QRP+
Message-Id: <01HMUN0TE4OYCRLD1S@tntech.edu>

All,

I apologize if this got out, but saw a later post and not this:

someone mentioned yesterday about the possibility of club discounts on the QRP+. I have been considering getting one. I am a member of ARCI and Norcal. I know that there are a number of other Internetters that are members of one or both clubs. Wondering if there is any interest in checking out the possibility of club purchase on the QRP+.

thanks

73,72 and still counting :)

Jeff, AC4HF

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 04:21:02 1995
From: Johnson_Dan@AAC.COM
Message-Id: <9502090733.22617.AB@smrouter.AAC.COM>
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 95 23:16:00 PST
Subject: Re: Case finishing

On 2/8/95 at 10:51pm Rich Mulvey <rkm@vectorbd.com> wrote:

> I just wanted to make a recommendation for a rather neat paint I used
> to finish the case of my Sierra with. It's called "Hammerite"...

I used Hammerite "brown" (looks like milk chocolate) to refinish a Hallicrafters S-38 cabinet. Stripped the original paint and the ugly grey someone had added with 3M "Safest Stripper" (non-caustic). I wedged the cabinet on a cardboard box with the front face up and found that the sides (vertical while painting) have more of a "flaked" finish and the front (horizontal while painting) has a smoother finish. I like the effect. Air vents and speaker grille holes survived perfectly with masking tape blocking them on the "wrong" side.

Looks like this stuff would be totally cool to make a homebrew case look really professional. Might even spiff up a Bud Box!

The owner of the local hardware store where I bought it told me that Hammerite was developed for the oil industry. Seems they needed a paint that could be applied to oil rigs at sea to seal rusty steel without removing the rust, without applying primer, and in generally wet conditions. Hammerite contains glass particles which fuse to produce the "flaked" (they call it "hammered metal") finish.

If you use it, pay attention to application and cure times: apply each coat within an hour of the last one, and honor the 6 week cure time. I tried violating these on scrap metal and became a believer!

I've seen Hammerite in brown, gray, light green (a bit lighter than Heatkit green), black, white, and sea green. On the spray can is "Hammerite Products,

Inc., Tacoma WA 98409, 1-800-733-4413".

LN(3568119231764899702645714923623737840956866 56)
---------- - 2 de Dan/KC4EWT (VA)
2 LN(2)

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 14:33:48 1995
From: Jack Ponton <jwp@chemeng.ed.ac.uk>
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 13:33:10 GMT
Message-Id: <199502091333.NAA12325@aith.chemeng.ed.ac.uk>
Subject: Re: Case finishing

Hammerite is what I use in restoring old cars (autos to you in W-land). You just wire brush most of the rust off the chassis/suspension/diff and paint on Finnegan's Hammerite.

I've only used it for brushing; it's very much cheaper in large cans for the sort of quantities I use. This makes a perfectly acceptable job, and I find it easier and safer than spraying. It is available here in both `smooth' and in `hammered' finish. For cases the hammered finish looks best, but the smooth is worth considering if you wanted to rustproof antenna poles, e.g.

I would reinforce Dan's point about the cure times; it looks really messy if you don't. Also the instructions about ventilation; you REALLY don't want to breath the fumes!

You must use a special solvent for cleaning brushes etc. (For car chassis I usually buy cheap brushes and throw them away...) You cannot use cellulose thinners, white spirit etc. This stuff is rather pricey, but you can use an industrial chlorinated solvent such as methylene chloride or Genklene (trichloroethane).

I've used it for years and never thought of painting anything NEW with it!

73 de Jack gm0rwu

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri Feb 10 01:17:09 1995
From: carreiro@netcom.com (Paul Carreiro)
Message-Id: <199502100356.TAA02791@netcom19.netcom.com>
Subject: Re: Case finishing
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 19:56:48 -0800 (PST)

I found two products in the 1995 Antique Electronic Supply catalog that may be of interest to those looking for a way of finishing their projects:

"Wrinkle Finish" Description: Great for refinishing vintage radio cabnets,
                                faceplates and speakers. 12 oz spray can.
                                Jet Black: P/N SF-227 $4.69
                                Grey   : P/N SF-701 $4.69
                                Brown   : P/N SF-226 $5.95

"Hammertone Finish"   Restore hammered finishes with metalic grey
                                hammertone paint from Illinois Bronze.
                                Supplied in 12 oz spray can.
                                P/N SF-232 $4.96

Antique Electronic Supply is located in Tempe, AZ and can be reached at
(602) 820-5411 voice, (602) 820-4643 or (800) 706-6789 fax. I have not
used either of these products and can not personally testify to their
"finished look". Also, just for the record, I am in no way affiliated
with Antique Electronic Supply, just a customer. A free catalog is
available from them.

Hope this helps.
73/72
Paul N6HCS
carreiro@netcom.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 13:28:09 1995
Subject: dupe messages
From: brian.carling@acenet.com (Brian Carling)
Message-Id: <2a6.10277.500@acenet.com>
Date: Thu, 09 Feb 1995 10:21:00 -0500

>From: brian.carling@acenet.com

BY>it appear after 24 hours. During the night, this backlog is caught up. I've
BY>been noticing many dupes, sometimes three copies of the same email, that
BY>tend to fill up my mailbox.

BY>72, Byron

Byron - my messages NEVER reappear! But I get replies, so I know they go
to the list OK!

brian.carling@acenet.com

 ~ SLMR 2.1a ~ Walk in the light!

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 04:41:59 1995
From: ab4el@cybernetics.net (Stephen Modena)
Message-Id: <9502090512.AA28604@cybernetics.net>
Subject: Earlier on 40 M...did you like it?
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 00:12:02 -0500 (EST)

As I sat there monitoring, I imagined how it must be to work SIGINT...
maybe banks of expensive receivers make it easier? :^)

First I hooked KC5JRR (the first of several times)...booming thru
from Kenney, TX. Then Jim NU8N and I made an exchange.

At almost quarter past the hour, the Fox Peter N2KPY came out of
the noise for a 55 exchange both ways...NC to LI-NY.

Then the Fox worked WA4NID...just over in Durham...too close to
be more than a whisper here. On the other hand, I'll bet if we
were running an hour later, I would not have heard his lips moving
at all. :^)

As usual, a shift down band changes how the fox sounds. I touched
base with him right on the half hour...and then heard several people
work him. WA4NID was still a whisper. AD4ZE Warren over in Cary
was loud here, talking to the fox. Then I heard AA4YZ on a burst,
fading to 22. Heard N8VAR, also 22. After KC1FB worked the Fox, we
had a short exchange. And finally after much persistance on
the part of both, I heard the Fox and KC5JJR complete their exchange.

So, hounds, how does the 7:00-8:00 period on 40 M suit you? Did
you think the skip was more in our favor. Opinions solicited.

After an interlude of an hour, I fired up on 75 M. I immediately
heard the Fox and worked him on 3.785.8 MHz. And then he faded out
for the rest of the segment. Ugh!

And immediately I received a call on frequency from AA4YZ in OH.
75 M sounded aweful! Just the opposite of last week....but then
this week on 40 seemed to be the opposite of last week, also.
Foxes: thank you for being able and willing to run on two bands
per night. Just up a bit, three different Carribean countries were
attracting crowds. I also heard an XE1.

On the half hour, I shifted up tp 3.900-3.910: 3905 CC Net was BOOMing
coast-to-coast...I never heard the Fox there...N9DD answered my
CQ...the noise grew noticably rougher during the half hour...but I
heard QSOs in CA, MT, AZ, TX, OR.

Well, my guesss is: overall the Fox did real well tonight. :^)

And I think we had really good participation.
--
73/Steve/AB4EL ab4el@Cybernetics.NET in Raleigh, NC 35.81245N, 78.65849W

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 19:07:36 1995
From: RobCap@aol.com
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 16:35:58 -0500
Message-Id: <950209163054_17277944@aol.com>
Subject: Homebrew

Jeff-

Thank you for your note on the question of "Homebrew". There has been a fair amount of correspondence on this of late. At the risk that our correspondence may generate 72 new opinions on the matter, let me share my thoughts.

The message that I take away is that "Homebrew" is somewhat in the eye of the beholder. Under QRP ARCI rules, the Sierra would qualify as "Homebrew" because it does not have step-by-step instructions. Norcal rules, as I understand it, give you more latitude: "If you built it, it's homebrew".

I like the Norcal philosophy. To build is to learn. In this era where so many hams are no-code techs who never discover the many intricacies of amateur radio (and never experience the unique smell of burning rosin), I think that even building a kit as robustly documented as a Heathkit is a noble and wonderful thing. And building a home-made radio is so rewarding. I feel that a contact on a home-made radio is worth 10 contacts on a commercial rig.

And I wouldn't be surprised if many of our hot RF designers today like Wayne Burdick, Dave Benson, and Dick at OHR started out building Heathkits when they were kids.

I tend to think it's a bad idea to differentiate between levels of "Homebrew", because I think that beginner kit builders should be given the maximum level of encouragement to get started. Further, I think that outstanding companies like Oak Hills Research should be commended for the quality of their kits and documentation, rather than penalized by having their kits "down-rated" during contests.

Of course, I really tip my hat to the few very talented outstanding RF designers out there who can design and build a new rig from a clean sheet of paper, and to share their ideas with the rest of us. We're very lucky to have them.

Thank you again for your note.

72,

Rob, WA3ULH

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 16:04:08 1995
Message-Id: <199502091352.IAA16094@jfwhome.funhouse.com>
Subject: Homebrew capacitors
Date: Thu, 09 Feb 1995 08:52:57 -0500
From: "John F. Woods" <jfw@jfwhome.funhouse.com>

Ah, how could I have forgotten what might be the most common homebrew capacitor: the "gimmick" capacitor mentioned in any number of ARRL Handbooks! Take two insulated pieces of hookup wire, twist them parallel to each other, separate and strip the leads at one end, trim the other end for the desired capacitance (usually a handful of pF). This is usually used for very light coupling between circuits.

I used a similar capacitor to add a "Q multiplier" to an old vacuum tube shortwave receiver that I was using in my hamshack many years ago; a stiff piece of wire soldered to the grid pin of the tube socket which was then placed parallel to the tube and moved around until the IF amplifier just barely didn't oscillate.

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 02:31:56 1995
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: Re: K1BQT TRAVEL RADIO
Date: Thu, 09 Feb 95 01:13:08 EST5EDT
Message-Id: <1995Feb09.011308.21398@wb3ffv.ampr.org>

You mentioned that just about everyone has been touched in some way by the designs of Rich Littlefield, K1BQT. Coincidentally, time is running out for submitting nominations for the QRP Hall of Fame for 1995. Not suggesting anything, just making an observation :-)
73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ
--
Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ wb3ffv.ampr.org
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 10:16:40 1995
Message-Id: <199502091409.GAA03151@netcom.netcom.com>
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 95 09:00:23 EST
From: C=BAILEY%IS%211EIS@PAMDT.ANG.AF.MIL
Subject: re: kits are homebrew?

Cam, N6GA of ARCI did publish comments on what he as Contest Chairman

considers to be "homebrew".

I feel that there should be two catagories. One being "kit built" and the other being "on-your-own-built". Kit built would include any construction done by someone else to include a printed circuit board. On your own is just that, you built it totally from bits and pieces. (No matter where the parts came from). I admire those who have the time, skill, and knowledge to build "on your own type" equipment. That is my goal for this hobby. I think those folks derserve some type of recognition. If it is not in a operating contest, then how about in a display of the equipment? How about different multipliers?

You also have the elite who design their own! Let's not forget them.

72 de Cameron, KT3A [Right now, just a kitbuilder. Tommorrow, who knows?]

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 18:50:04 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 95 13:35:07 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9502091935.AA06943@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: KL7

Got email from Jim, AL7FS, and my email bounced back
from him.

Jim, you wanna be a special fox on 40M? There are
probably a number of individuals on qrp-l that will
give you a run for your money. Rare DX and last state
for WAS...... :-)

dit dit

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 14:50:33 1995
Message-Id: <MAILQUEUE-101.950209125601.416@rcadmin.nov.add.bnl.gov>
From: "nick franco - rhic admin - 5467 - supv priv"
<NICKF@rcadmin.nov.add.bnl.gov>
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 12:56:01 EDT
Subject: Light Homebrew Paddles

Hi All,

I recently joined this listserv and have already been wading through

many mail messages. Good Stuff!

Someone wrote in about backpacking a rig and was looking for small light-weight paddles. I deleted the message too fast to reply direct.

I made two sets of paddles which work very well. I've used them to go to Boy Scout camp with my sons over the last three summers with my HW-8 and battery. You should bring a screwdriver and small pair of pliers for adjustments after a rough travel.

Construction:

I used a 3" by 5" piece of 1/2" plywood as a base. Cut a thin slit 3/4" into the middle of a piece of 1" x 1" x 2" block of wood. Glue and screw this block onto the 1/2" plywood base about 1" from one end slit on top (recess flat head screws). Press into the thin slit a Personal Computer back plane blank. This will be the single paddle common wiper. Cut two pieces of 1/2" dowel about 1 1/2" long and drill a pilot hole about 1/2" from one side through the dowel. Locate one dowel on each side of the center paddle with about 1/2 or so gap. From the bottom, drill pilot hole through the base and into the dowel for mounting. Glue and screw the dowels onto the base in position. Thread a nut onto two bolts of your choice and screw the bolts through the dowels from the outside so that the tip of the bolts will be the contact points to the center paddle. Drill a hole throught the block of wood as close to the base as possible for two of the three conductor wire to pass through. Solder a one lead to each nut on the dowel (The nuts allow adjusting of the dowels for touch sensitivity without stressing the solder connection). The third lead or common (braid) is soldered to the back side of the center paddle. A small piece of wood can be slotted to fit over the front end of the center paddle as a handle (thickness is to personal comfort). Work this handle onto the end of the center paddle and tie wrap or epoxy in place. Attach a stereo plug to the other end of the three conductor feed wire (dit's and dah's on the side of your choice). That's it! Sounds more complicated than it really is. I never wrote the instructions down before. Hope it's understandable. I've put these paddle sets together in about 15 minutes to 1/2 hour.

Also...I bought peal and stick velcro strips and place two strips on the bottom of the paddle base and two strips on a clip board or table top to keep the paddle in place while operating. Works great.. Cheeeeeep! and portable. If the break ... Who cares.. makes new ones. Hi Hi.

Nick/KF2PH

Nick Franco - Computer Support Group
tel:(516)282-5467 fax:(516)282-3674
kf2ph@bnl.gov or nickf@bnl.gov

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 04:56:59 1995
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: Re meaning of SPRAT
Date: Thu, 09 Feb 95 01:10:15 EST5EDT
Message-Id: <1995Feb09.011015.21398@wb3ffv.ampr.org>

When I said that SPRAT was a valid English word, the meaning I had in mind was not the small herring, but rather the meaning which indicated something small and tiny, which I thought was quite appropriate and a neat play on words. I refreshed my memory tonight, and here's the secondary definition (after small herring) from my copy of Websters New Collegiate Dictionary (that's one of those which have all the nasty words and phrases in it :-) --sprat.... 2: a young, small, or insignificant person.   QRPers use small (but not necessarily young or insignificant) rigs. I did not intend to imply that the GQRP Clubs journal SPRAT was suitable for wrapping fish :-)   73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ (GQRP #4792)
--
Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ wb3ffv.ampr.org
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 10:12:06 1995
Message-Id: <199502091418.GAA04119@netcom.netcom.com>
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 95 09:17:18 EST
From: C=BAILEY%IS%211EIS@PAMDT.ANG.AF.MIL
Subject: Re: Misc.

Rob, you are not alone. I am waiting on two awards. It's been almost a year.

I just sent Chuck a letter. My guess is that there is a backlog. I'm patient too. But you can't help but wonder :-).

72 de Cameron, KT3A (Staring at a paperless wall....sigh).

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 14:35:02 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 95 09:26:56 MST
Message-Id: <9502091626.AA01049@rgfn.epcc.Edu>
From: ab253@rgfn.epcc.Edu (Andrew Hair)

Subject: Missed SSB Fox!

To all:

Well, at least two of us from El Paso tried to track down the Fox last night, but with no luck. I didn't have much time to listen, only about 35 minutes up front before I had to run off to teach a class. As it turned out, I was late for the class and had to endure some ribbing from 40 students. I gave them some excuse about being stuck in traffic. I couldn't bring myself to confess to playing with my radios!

Al, AB5TZ was also listening. The last report from him was no luck as well. I did hear a QRO station talking to Steve, AB4EL during the first 15 minutes on 40 meters. Based on the posts of the last few days I was not sure who the fox was. I thought it was Steve and tried to call him with no luck. A QRO station from Iowa broke in an gave me a 57 report. I immediately felt something was wrong. I checked my watt meters and seemed to be under 10 watts. It just didn't seem like I should have done that well. I'll never be able to understand propagation! Who knows, I might even hear the fox one of these days. I'm already looking forward to next week.

72 es 73

Andrew - AB5WB

--

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 03:31:59 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 20:30:12 -0800
Message-Id: <199502090430.UAA12557@ix2.ix.netcom.com>
From: ka7uld@ix.netcom.com (Mark Cronenwett)
Subject: Monday's 2/6 Fox Hunt

Well I got double tricked....:((

The air was clear when I started at 8:00pm here. I started to work KK6MC, and then the entire band went haywire like I have not seen in a

long tine. The noise here was running at least a constant S10+, and I could not copy a thing.

I then logged into my account on Netcom to send a message that it was just too bad, and that I would try and continue, but would do this again on Wednesday (PST) since I figured it would go away. Was not able to check mail until today, guess what, my mail must have went into a black hole here. It never appeared on the net. I have a copy of the mail, and everything is in order. I wondered why nobody was answering my CQ Fox calls. I also noticed that the SSB Fox is tonite...:((

My sincere apologies to everyone, I really was there.

Contacts were:

KK6MC   449 on 7.116.2 and NU6U 449 on 7.035.

Mark

--
==
Mark Cronenwett, KA7ULD   OS: Linux, DOS, Unix
Sunnyvale, CA   Packet: ka7uld@n0ary
Operating QRP on CW, Pactor, Gtor, SSB
Ask me about the NorCal QRP Club
==

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 19:09:26 1995
From: PB13128@deere.com
Message-Id: <DACDXX21.PB13128.964450150095040FDACDXX21@TCP30.DX.DEERE.COM>
Date: 09 Feb 1995 15:50:15 GMT
Subject: NOTE 02/09/95 15:50:44

>From: Peter Beedlow

Subject: A little help from my friends.......

This is not strictly a QRP topic but one more of good will.

I have been corresponding with a ham friend in Namibia who is involved in teaching code and other radio topics to people interested in the amateur radio hobby. He is having difficulty in obtaining keys and practice oscillators anoung other things, Everything is extremely expensive there. The oscillator situations is fairly easy to take care of, I can bag up several 555 kits and send them.

The key situation however is not quite as easy. What I looking for is any

reference material that has directions to build a straight key WITHOUT machine tools. Hacksaw blades come instantly to mind! Anyway if any of you out there in QRP land have some ideas please reply to me directly, pb13128@deere.com.

I have contacted the folks at F.A.I.R (Foundation for Amateur International Radio Service, LTD) and will also give the ARRL a call.

Thanks in advance for the cooperation and assistance.

Pete, NN9K

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 13:38:42 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 95 05:25:33 PST
From: IVAN MCCAFFREY LAM RESEARCH PA1314 PH8385 <IMCCAFFREYX@FAB10.intel.com>
Message-Id: <9502091325.utk8544@FAB10.intel.com>
Subject: RE paddle Keys

Hi all,
        Does anybody have an address where I can lay my hands on a Brass racer or info on any other paddle key ?I would be interested to haer any other comments as I am keen to buy a paddle key (cheaply)

        --... ...--

        Ivan EI4HP.

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri Feb 10 02:01:43 1995
Date: 09 Feb 95 20:51:20 EST
From: Craig LaBarge <74740.3166@compuserve.com>
Subject: Power Measurements
Message-Id: <950210015120_74740.3166_EHB233-1@CompuServe.COM>

For quite some time now, I've been running along, fat, dumb, and happy, using the cross-needle wattmeter in my MFJ-941C tuner as my primary determinant of power output. It always seemed reasonably accurate. My MFJ 9030 shows 4.5 watts out, my MFJ 9040 shows 5.0 watts out, and my Ten Tec Century 22 shows 20 watts out full blast, as I would expect.

Attempting to establish a more precise measure of the output power of my NE 40-40, I used a Heathkit RF probe and my DVM (10 Meg input Z). I measured across a dummy load which measures 49 ohms with flat SWR across the HF bands. Using the formula: P(rms) = E(rms)**2/Z I calculated power levels significantly lower than the wattmeter showed.

Thinking my DVM was off, I used the circuit described in the NE 40-40 manual to measure the peak RF voltage. (This method is just a series diode and a .01 ufd filter cap). I took measurements this way using both the DVM and my trusty old VOM. Both meters gave similar results, again indicating lower power than the wattmeter. Hmmmm..... Interestingly, when I tried to use this method to set the power level on my 40-40, I couldn't get the 12 V (indicating 1.5 watts) that the manual specified. I could, however, get 1.5 watts easily on the wattmeter. Leads me to think that my RF voltage measurements are suspect.

Here's what I measured, and the power I calculated:

MFJ	NN1G Method		RF Probe	
Wattmeter	Vpk	Prms	Vrms	Prms
1 watt	6.5	.42	4.9	.48
2 watts	9.0	.81	6.5	.845
3 watts	11.4	1.30	8.0	1.28
4 watts	13.7	1.88	9.7	1.88
5 watts	17.0	2.89	12.0	2.88

Some possible reasons for the descrepancies:

1. The MFJ wattmeter is wrong and non of my rigs are really putting out to spec.
2. There's something wrong with my RF voltage measurements.
3. I made some fundamental bonehead math error.

I guess my next step in the persuit of truth is to find some decent standard to calibrate my RF voltmeter against (or add yet another variable to the mess). This is driving me nuts! I should have left well enough alone!

The moral of the story: A man with a watch always knows what time it is. A man with two watches is never really sure! :-)

73, Craig WB3GCK

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 18:22:46 1995
From: fmitchell@rdcclink.rd.qms.com
Date: Thu, 09 Feb 95 11:42:45 CST

Message-Id: <9501097923.AA792358965@rdcclink.rd.qms.com>
Subject: Re: Prizes

vibroplex is glad to donate a brass racer for a banquet
prize... in celebration of vibroplex being an exhibitor
at dayton again!!!!

where do i send it?

mitch
wa4osr

* The *FIRST HAM OWNER* owner of The Vibroplex Co., Inc.!*

Felton "Mitch" Mitchell, WA4OSR
E-mail: fmitch@ns1.maf.mobile.al.us first choice
or fmitch@netcom.com second choice
Smail: 11 Midtown Park, E., Mobile, AL 36606-4141
334-478-8873 work, 334-342-7259 home 334-476-0465 FAX
Packet: WA4OSR@W4IAX.#MOBAL.AL.USA.NA

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 20:43:56 1995
Date: Thu, 09 Feb 1995 16:28:04 -0600 (CST)
From: cfm5723@tntech.edu (Conard Murray)
Subject: PRO57A and tower FS
Message-Id: <01HMUOMVX5FMCRLCMG@tntech.edu>

Hello All!

I am posting this for a technicial here in the EE dept. He has a Mosley PRO-57A still in the box for $500 including shipping. He did open the box to see if all the parts were there. He also has a Rohn HDBX-48 48 foot free-standing tower he wants $350 for, but this is a pick-up item. He lives in Cookeville, TN ... thats halfway between Nashville and Knoxville on I-40.

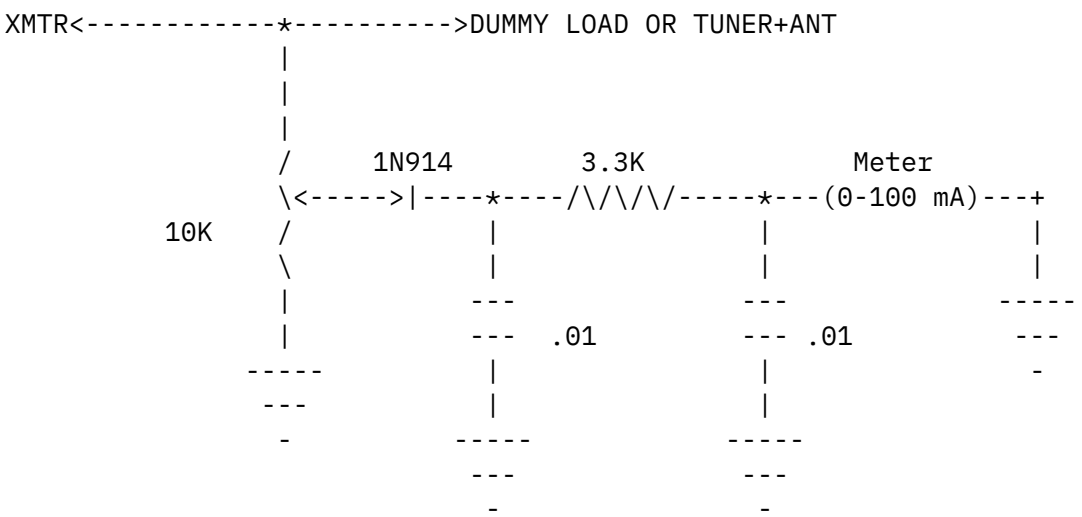
73 and thanks.... Keep 'em glowing....Conard WS4S

| Conard F.Murray WS4S | 615-372-3718 office |
| R&D Engineer, Electrical Engineering Department | 615-372-6172 fax |
| Tennessee Tech University | cfm5723@tntech.edu

|
| Cookeville, TN 38505 |
ws4s@wa4uce.midtn.tn.usa |
.....
.....

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 04:43:13 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 95 20:35:06 HST
From: jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu (Jeffrey Herman)
Message-Id: <9502090635.AA12301@kahuna.math.hawaii.edu>
Subject: Project 16: A QRPp Wattmeter

Here's an easy-to-build Wattmeter for the QRPp folks. My 80M xmtr
puts out less than 1W and this provided full scale deflection.



I used a meter from a junked CB transceiver, but your VOM would
do just fine. Make sure the 10K pot is not wire wound; I used a
carbon trimmer from a junked TV board.
Please don't run QRO into this little pup without beefing it up.

Jeff NH6IL

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 15:25:49 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 10:38:56 -0800 (PST)
From: John Dundas <ab6dg@netcom.com>
Subject: Promised list of SOCAL folk!

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502091047.A9422-0100000@netcom11>

OK gang--here are the results to date, in no particular order, of the Great Hunt for Living Southern California QRP'rs on the 'net!

Name and Call	E mail address
Paul, N6HCS	carreiro@netcom.com
Dennis, WJ6H	dwebster@netcom.com
Charlie, W6JJZ	clofgren@benson.mckenna.edu
Bart, WB6HQK	bart@wb6hqk.ampr.org
Lynn, KE6JZD	lynn@wb6hqk.ampr.org
Clark, WA3JPG	turner@ics.uci.edu
Joe, KD6PRD	joe@expersoft.com
John, K6Q?	john.moriarity@com2bbs.com
Bill, KE3MI	bprobeck@locke.ccil.org
Terry, AC6EF	dunla004@cerritos.edu
Ed, KA3YAA	truck@epix.net
Alan, W6CRL	kaul@netcom.com
Bruce, W6TOY/3	BRUCE3900@delphi.com
John, KC6UDF	dundas@netcom.com
Pete, W6ZH	w6zh@netcom.com
John, AB6DG	ab6dg@netcom.com
Cam, N6GA	CamQRP@aol.com
Richard, KI6SN	KI6SN@aol.com
Dave, W6MIK	af389@lafn.org

You can send corrections and additions to me, but be sure to send all complaints to someone else.

BTW, the purpose of this list is not to create any new group, but simply to allow occasional direct communication among some locals, without gumming up the inboxes of people around the world on the qrp list. Those who wish to use it might want to put these addresses into a distribution list in their own mail program.

72/3 de John, AB6DG

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 08:31:45 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 95 04:25:57 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9502091025.AA05694@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: Puttin Rig in Case

Thought that everyone would get a laugh outta this:

Up early, so I had MXM XCVR that I am fixing to review,
as I now have one on 40M and this one for 20M.

We all do this. I very carefully get the ruler, PC
boards, connectors, etc. and on scratch paper draw how
I want the connectors laid out and who goes where.
No problem.

Get the ruler and pencil and mark the case. Get the
Ohio Forge cordless drill and drill mounting holes and
starting hole for SO-239, and all the rest of the holes.
Mounted the variable cap and PC board to check alignment.
Perfect.

OK, remove board so we don't get metal shavings stuck some-
where that will do considerable damage on power-up. THings
are going just fine.

OK. To the tool box to get 3/8 chassis punch for SO-239.
Get metal reamer to enlarge hole and then proceed to punch
out the hole. Wait - why is the variable cap sticking out
the back of the chassis? Ooops. It's the front. The pencil
marking for AF Out partially rubbed off and I thought it
was RF out. :-)

To err is human - to forgive devine. A. Pope

No biggy, got another 300 cases to drill........ It'll
help get the garage cleaned out.

dit dit :-)

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 13:19:05 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 08:35:32 -0800 (PST)
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: Re: QRP DESIGN ADVICE
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950209083159.28153A-100000@crl3.crl.com>

An excellent design to take a look at is the Viking V in the book
"The Joy of QRP". This is an excellent design. It will be necessary
to update it. The transistors are out of date, but similiar ones do
exist. The design is multi band (switching), the stages are impedance
matched. You can always add a QSK circuit. The VFO design is very
stable. PC layout included.

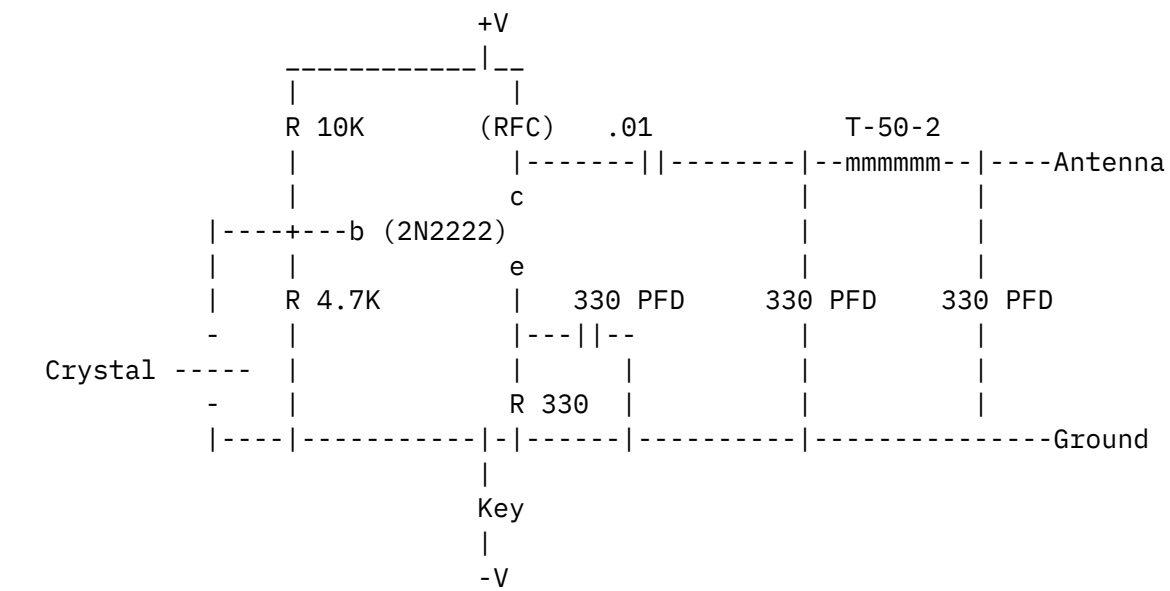
73 de stan AK0B

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 07:07:30 1995
From: Michael Marmor <mmarmor@pluto.njcc.com>
Message-Id: <199502090156.UAA27589@pluto.njcc.com>
Subject: Re: QRP Pen circuit
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 20:56:14 -0500 (EST)

>
> > Does this circuit want to see a 50 Ohm impedance for the antenna
> > (and how can I tell from the schematic what impedance it "wants"
> > to have?)
>
> What's the output circuit look like (i.e. the collector circuit)? There's ways
> to figure the impedance, but it depends a lot on the design of the circuit...
>
> -Tom R.   N1OOQ   randolph@est.enet.dec.com
>

Here is my first attempt at ASCII schematics - please don't laugh!

QRP Pen - p 52 "How to Get Started in QRP" by Dave Ingram



What impedance antenna do I want for this circuit?

73 Michael, AA2UJ
mmarmor@pluto.njcc.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 14:25:20 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 06:45:17 -0800 (PST)
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: Re: QRP Pen circuit
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950209063240.6469A-100000@crl9.crl.com>

What impedance do you want ? First we need to answer the question as what impedance do you need. This may be easily done. The circuit per the text has an output of 250 mw (0.25 watts). Assume you are using a 6 volt power supply source. Then we can calculate the impedance at the collector of the 2N2222.

Collector Impedance = RL = (Vs x Vs)/2 Po   Vs = 6   Po = 0.25

Therefore RL = 72 ohms

Assume we are going to use an antenna with an impedance of 52 ohms. The VSWR at the collector will be 72/52 or 1.38 , not bad for a simple circuit.   However, if you use a Vs of 12 volts the mismatch becomes greater than 4 to 1 at the collector.

The filter is a 3 pole Chebyshev low-pass. Using the 330 pf cap value it appears to be a 1 db ripple design. From the table for 50 ohm to 50 ohm filters in the ARRL handbook the filter (T50-2 with 330 pf caps) has a cut-off of 19.5 mHz. If you start working with the values of the coil and caps you will find out that there may be a mistake in there values.

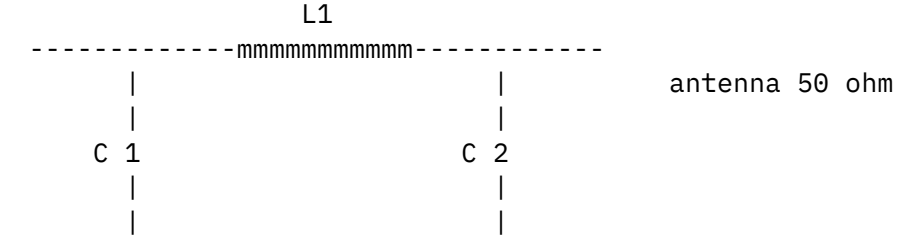
Anyway the 14 turns on a T50-2 and 330 pf caps do not match for 10 mHz filter.   The coil appears to have to many turns.   Anyway it tells how to calculate it in the handbook. And I will take a look at the standard SPRAT type filters and also calculate the values if you need them. Initiallly it appears that the 30 mHz coil has an inductance of 0.98 uH which does not match up for a 330 pf cap in the low pass filter.

de stan AK0B

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 15:30:28 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 07:52:20 -0800 (PST)
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: Re: QRP Pen circuit
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950209073820.17108A-100000@crl.crl.com>

Design of a Chebyshev low-pass filter (3 pole 0.1 db ripple) for the PEN.

Input and Output of 52 ohms. The pen circuit assumed to operate with
6 volts supply.   Mis-match less than 1.5:1



C1 = C2 = (3283)/freq-cutoff   freq-cutoff = fc

Set freq cutoff =   fo (1.15)   operating freq = fo

therefore   fo = 7.2 mhz   fc = (7.2)(1.15) = 8.28 mhz
              fo = 10.1 mhz   fc = (10.1)(1.15) = 11.6 mhz
              fo = 14.1 mhz   fc = (14.1)(1.15) = 16.2 mhz

at fo = 7.2 C1 = C2 = 3283/8.28 = 396 pf   use 400 pf
at fo = 10.1 C1 = C2 = 3283/11.6 = 283 pf   use 270 pf
at fo = 14.2 C1 = C2 = 3283/16.2 = 202 pf   use 200 pf

L1 = 9.131/fc

therefore

at fo = 7.2 mhz L1 = 9.131/8.28 = 1.10 uh
at fo = 10.1 mhz L1 = 9.131/11.6 = 0.78 uh
at fo = 14.2 mhz L1 = 9.131/16.2 = 0.56 uh

for T50-2 cores the number of turns t = (100)(sq root of L/50)

at fo 7.2 mhz t = (100)(sq root of 1.10/50) = 14 turns
at fo 10.1 mhz t = (100)(sq root of 0.78/50) = 12 turns
at f0 14.2 mhz t = (100)(sq root of 0.56/50) = 10 turns

Refer to ARRL handbook for more details. I used tables from the 1980
handbook.

check my figures.   73 de stan AK0B   e-mail via randyw@crl.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 18:45:29 1995
Date: Thu, 09 Feb 1995 08:10:14 -0600 (CST)
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: QRP+ buying

Message-Id: <01HMU76ONA2WCRL1ZH@tntech.edu>

All,

well I have been contemplating buying a QRP+ since they first came
out. I have sold off some stuff recently and may even have enough
money soon. Yesterday someone posted about discounts for QRP
clubs. Since I am a member of ARCI and NorCal.. (both with big
memberships) was wondering if there was any interest with the
Internet QRP group in trying to arrange a club discount.. would
sure sway my decision.

72

Jeff, AC4HF

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 10:09:51 1995
Date: Thu, 09 Feb 1995 08:13:42 -0600 (CST)
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: Radio Craftsman
Message-Id: <01HMU79XC8NICRL1ZH@tntech.edu>

> >
> > Could you please send me some information on how to subscribe to The
> > Radio Craftsman? I had never heard of it before but it sounds interesting.
> >
> > Thanks.
> >
> > Jim Rybak W0KSD
> >
>
> Off the back cover of the jul/aug 1995 issue:
>
> ----
> Subscriptions are $10 per year within the U.S. and $15 per
> year elsewhere. Send all subscription requests or other
> correspondence to:
> The Radio Craftsman
> P.O. Box 3682
> Lawrence, KS 66046-0682
> ----
>
> Doug publishes his e-mail address in the radio craftsman so I
> assume that it is OK to post it here.
> Doug Heacock, AA0MS   heacock@kuhub.cc.ukans.edu
>
> The magazine is published 6 times per year and is 8 pages long.
>

I liked the approach that Doug started with the last issue. It deals with VFO design in pretty understandable terms. My goal has always been to someday design and build a simple rig. The publication is going to print articles that deal with aspects of this till the point where you are suppose to end up with a workable project. I really think the ARRL should do a lot more of this with QST.. there are some really good writers in this group that know a lot about design..

72,73

Jeff, AC4HF

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 04:24:36 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 23:35:48 -0500
Message-Id: <95020823354812@sescva.esc.edu>
From: pcalcand@sescva.esc.edu (PETER CALCANDY)
Subject: results of the SSB fox outing of Feb 8th.

Well, the fox hunt is over with mixed results. AB4EL was my only contact on 75 meters. I didn't even hear anyone else. I thought the outcome would be the other way around with 40 meters being difficult to copy with all the QRM. 75 meters seemed quite lite. The usual strong signals were not there. I hope it was the band and not my rig.

The following are the results for the evening:

TIME [EST]	FREQ.	CALL	REC.	SENT
8:06	7.226	KC1FB	5 5	5 5
8:14	7.226	AB4EL	5 5	5 5
8:17	7.226	NU8N	3 2	3 2
8:24	7.226	WA4NID	4 4	4 4
8:39	7.219	AD4ZE	5 3	5 5
8:41	7.219	AA4YZ	3 3	2 2
8:43	7.219	N8VAR	2 2	2 2
8:54	7.219	KC5JRR	2 2	4 4
10:07	3.785	AB4EL	3 3	4 4

I sat on 3.785 until 10:30, at which time I moved to 3.901. Heard no one for 15 minutes so I tuned around. I heard AB4EL speaking with someone at 10:45 at 3.908. He faded into the noise. I spent the rest of the hour there with no results.
If you would like a souvenier picture of me sitting at my station, please send $10 to the address below. If you just want a QSL card, well that's free.
Peter Calcandy

183 Vineyard Road
Huntington, New York 11743

Good Luck
72 + 73
Peter. N2KPY

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 18:20:25 1995
Subject: Returned mail: User unkno
From: brian.carling@acenet.com (Brian Carling)
Message-Id: <2a6.10274.500@acenet.com>
Date: Thu, 09 Feb 1995 10:21:00 -0500

>From: brian.carling@acenet.com

MDS>7@clarknet.clark.net>

MDS>550 qrp-l... User unknown
MDS>550 netcom.com... User unknown

Huh? Looks like the Internet burped! So here it is again:

Subject: Visit with MXM Industries

MDS>From: brian.carling@acenet.com

MDS>(rohre@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu) writes:

MDS>RO>Sunday Feb. 5 I was at the Georgetown (TX) hamfest and was visiting with
MDS>Bru
MDS>RO>Williams of MXM Industries.

MDS>RO>We lamented together the passing of several QRP kit making enterprises
MDS>latel
MDS>RO>but Bruce has a number of stock units, and some with enclosures, so is
MDS>RO>plugging away. He likely will be at the Manchaca Swapfest (Austin TX)
MDS>April
MDS>RO>1.

MDS>RO>I have constructed one of Bruce's 40 M transceivers as part of a communi
MDS>RO>school class I helped him put on, here in Austin.

MDS>So is Bruce gonna keep supplying these kits?

MDS>What is the name and address of his business? Is this the same thing as
MDS>MXM ???
MDS>Thanks & 72 de AF4K
MDS>brian.carling@acenet.com

MDS> ~ SLMR 2.1a ~ Pine trees: God's way of saying "put up antennas!"

 ~ SLMR 2.1a ~ -

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 15:18:55 1995
Subject: So when are we....
From: brian.carling@acenet.com (Brian Carling)
Message-Id: <2a6.10276.500@acenet.com>
Date: Thu, 09 Feb 1995 10:21:00 -0500

>From: brian.carling@acenet.com

JL>lrouter.alascom.com>

JL>So when are we going to work on HF? What weekend?
JL>Are you doing QRP WAS or just WAS.

No idea who this is addressed to, since you do not say!
I get all QRP-L messages here as addressed to ME, so I have no idea
who you are talking to! Is it me? Sure if you want a sked, I'll be glad.

Please include and addressee in your TEXT on all messages to qrp-l.
It would help me SO much if everyone would do this or something
similar to indicate who the intended recipient is.

Radio AF4K
brian.carling@acenet.com

 ~ SLMR 2.1a ~ Walk in the light!

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 09:48:32 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 03:34:13 +000 (UTC)
From: Rich Mulvey <rkm@vectorbd.com>
Subject: Source for Hammerite paint
Message-Id: <Pine.3.87.9502090313.D1488-0100000@vectorbd.vectorbd.com>

Before I get dozens more queries: :-)

I got the Hammerite paint I mentioned in a previous post from a local

hobby shop (Dan's Crafts and Things, for those of you near Rochester, NY.) They had black, blue, red, and grey. A standard-size spray can was $4.99. According to the can, the manufacturer is "Huntington Speciality Products."

  I also received a comment that metallic-flake paint that doesn't require baking/heating can be purchased at most auto-supply stores. You might want to try that option, as well.

- Rich

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 05:31:36 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 95 21:05:25 HST
From: jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu (Jeffrey Herman)
Message-Id: <9502090705.AA12412@kahuna.math.hawaii.edu>
Subject: RE: Sources of N750 caps

Anytime I've wanted to buy a grab bag of caps I would ask the RS salesman if I could open it up - ``Sure'' is always the response. Do it gently so they can restaple the cardboard cover if you don't find what you want.

Look for item #272-801, ``Set of 100 disc capacitors, up to 1000WVDC. Many include NPO, HI-Q, N750, mylar and ceramic types. Assorted values and voltage ratings.'' $2.20 at our Hawaii stores.

RS stopped carrying their 90-450 pf mica compression caps, probably do to low sales, so try to do as much component shopping there as possible so they don't drop other parts, too.

Jeff NH6IL (not associated with RS, but you can't beat their convenience!)

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 03:48:38 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 95 23:27:14 PST
From: dh@deneb.csustan.edu (Doug Hendricks)
Message-Id: <9502090727.AA10814@deneb.csustan.edu>
Subject: SSB QRP

I just got off the nightly sked with Derry, VE7QK, Bruce, VE7ZM, Joe, VE7TX, Willy, VE7YY, John, K7RO in Oregon, Vern, W6MMA in near Placerville, CA, and we were all QRP!!! SSB no less. Derry, Bruce, Joe, Willy, John and Vern were all running Homebrew Rigs. John's was the prototype of the next NorCal project, the Cascade, which will be a 75 & 20 meter dual band SSB rig in a Sierra case. More on that later as details become available.

The exciting news was that Vern passed his Extra code tonight. He had passed the written several months ago, but just hadn't gotten the code. He was one of the guys who bought the Epiphyte kits that I did a couple of months ago, and he also built the Epiphyte VFO and 5 Watt amp from the December issue of QRPp and put them in a copy of the Sierra case. The VE7s have a QRP net every night on 75M SSB in the Extra portion of the US band. Vern was having to listen and not talk. He said that the motivation to get his code was to be able to talk with us on the net. Imagine our surprise when he gave us a call tonight on frequency.

Vern has worked Japan 5 times, New Zealand once, and most of the midwest and western states with his Epiphyte. This morning he worked a W6 in LA MOBILE!! Vern was the mobile, with the Epiphyte. There was a Japanese station who could tell Vern was in there, but just couldn't quite copy him. When he finished with the QSO in LA, a guy in Salt Lake City called and told Vern that he was 57 in Utah.

Guys, if you haven't tried SSB QRP, give it a shot. It is fun. You will be amazed at what it can do. Also, how about the rest of you who bought Epiphyte kits? Do you have your rigs on the air yet? Give me a report if you do.

When I hear of guys like Vern who have built something from an article in QRPp, it really makes it all worth while. If you build something from any of the QRP journals, write the author and give him some feed back, and don't forget to let the editor know too.

Oh yes, we will "Introduce the Cascade" at Dayton.
Have a good day, and cul.
72, Doug, KI6DS

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 18:34:08 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 08:25:00 -0500
From: "david (d.) burniston" <davidgb@bnr.ca>
Message-Id: <"1797 Thu Feb 9 08:25:27 1995"@bnr.ca>
Subject: TEN TEK ALL BAND DC RECEIVER KIT

Hi...

Anyone out there built this receiver? I just finished and am having a problem with the audio quality. The CW signals are chirpy/distorted, not crisp like other DC receivers I've built.

The manual says this is caused by low battery voltage, but I'm running it off a well filtered supply, so this isn't the cause.

Just wondering if anyone else has had a similar experience.

... Dave

==
Dave Burniston,   Bell Northern Research Ottawa, ON Canada
VE3LFO   ph.(613) 765-3579
NORCAL 434   *** All opinions are strictly my own. ***
==

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 07:25:02 1995
From: Duncan Cadd <dcadd@luc.ac.be>
Message-Id: <9502090828.AA29210@alpha>
Subject: Tnx fer 17m info
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 09:28:34 +0100 (MET)

Greetings from a very sunny Diepenbeek in N.E. Belgium!

I just want to say thank you to the hams who have mailed me information on
17m handhelds. It's a pleasure being on the net with you.

If anyone has an address for a Belgian Mizuho dealer, please let me know.

Thanks,

Duncan ON/G0UTY, G-QRP 8117

"If I had all the money I'd spent on drink - I'd spend it on drink."
                        Sir Henry Rawlinson (also gouty)

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 18:28:18 1995
Message-Id: <199502092127.AA17680@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 14:27:16 -0700
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: To VO1DRB/Robt re: 9040

Sorry to take up list bandwidth for this, but your email bounced. So
will resend my reply to you here ...

Thanks for your comments and glad to know the mods might be of interest
to others. I'm still playing around with the units, but finally halted
to, well, get on the air for awhile. I was going into withdrawl being
QRT for over a month.

I am documenting my mods now with the intent of making them available.

Currently I am loading in a correct schematic of the rigs as they really are (schematics aren't bad, but a few notable errors, like the pinout on the LM386 and how its IF transformer is center-tapped, and the T-R relay comes off the +12v right after the switch, not the +10v reg., to name a few). Then, I'll make a modified version. I've just been having more fun than a human being is supposed to with these rigs. Really fun to play with. With a little care tweaking them up and such, the RX is really a very good receiver.

I'm still piddlin' around with the QSK and the reed relay. I got the main relay strung out for several seconds and let the reed do the ant. switching. I want to use the now spare relay contacts on the main relay to either alter the AGC or otherwise alter the receiver for a better side tone. The fast reed relay works fine, but still kinda clicky and some pumping of the AGC yet. There's gotta be a simply way to make a smooth sounding side town inspite of code speed or the CW filter in use. Its just a little too fragile at the moment. So will send you what I end u] with, hopefully after success this weekend.

On the RIT (being new to QRP), I found myself following some guys all over the place with the RIT. Then the next night took me several missed CQ's and calls before realizing the RIT was 1 KHz off! I tried figuring out how to use the shaft to switch an LED, but no luck. So I finally just used a low power LM124 op amp as a window comparator. The RIT volt. is 5.3v when at zero offset. So one comparator is set to switch when Vin>5.5v and the other when Vin<5.1v. I "or" the outputs of the two comparators with 1N918 diodes which drives the LED. Its the stupidist mod in the world, but I like it. A red LED comes on when you leave the detent. Also, it doubles as an XMT indicator with the faster reed relay, since the RIT voltage shifts on XMT. The original XMT LED comes off the main relay, which does NOT show QSK keying, so the RIT LED shows the instantaneous XMT keying.

I also saw a mod a few weeks ago for a spot switch with diodes and what not on the NE602. I just put a front panel switch on the rig and labeled it RX ONLY/TX ENBL. It breaks the +12v to the main relay to prevent the transmitter from actually being keyed. But the sidetone and RIT switching still occurs, which you can hear. So you go to RX ONLY, make some dits with the paddle and you can aline the sidetone with the station exactly. Flip to TX ENBL and you're on the air within a few Hz.

I can make an ASCII schematic of the RIT comparators fairly easy if you'd like to see it. An 8-pin IC, 2 trim pots, 2 diodes and a 10K resistor. Always glad to share with you or others what I have done.

73, Paul NA5N

----NATIONAL RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY ----- Socorro, New Mexico -----
| VLA - Very Large Array Observatory - Worlds largest radio telescope |

|VLBA - Very Long Baseline Array   - even larger |
--------(pharden@zia.aoc.nrao.edu) --- (73 de NA5N) --------------------

Paul NA5N
----NATIONAL RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY ----- Socorro, New Mexico -----
| VLA - Very Large Array Observatory - Worlds largest radio telescope |
|VLBA - Very Long Baseline Array   - even larger |
--------(pharden@zia.aoc.nrao.edu) --- (73 de NA5N) --------------------

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 17:05:11 1995
Message-Id: <MAILQUEUE-101.950209104124.384@rics1.cba.uh.edu>
From: "Dave Jenkins" <DJENKINS@rics1.cba.uh.edu>
Date: 9 Feb 95 10:41:24 CST
Subject: Wednesday SSB Fox Hunt

Finally nabbed the fox - yay!

7:08 (CST): talked to AB4EL (Steve) who had a good signal into C.
Texas, as seems to be usual.

7:13 Heard Steve talk to fox, but could not raise the fox myself.

7:26 Heard NU8N talking to AB4EL

7:30 Heard QRO WB2PIA calling CQ from NJ, so answered back to see if
he could hear me. We had a nice chat, and Steve joined in on that
QSO also. Still no fox contact. Drat.

Moved to next segment at 7:30 and decided I would do some calling.

7:50 Bingo! It took some exchanges, buy finally managed to get
signal reports back and forth. I was so excited I forgot to get/give
name!

7:59 Talked to AD4ZE (Warren) in NC.

I presume that those of you who don't have to get up at 4:30 in the
morning carried forth into the second hour of the hunt - I had to
quit to eat supper and then get some z's.

Good show, guys - looking forward to the next.

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Feb 9 16:52:52 1995
Message-Id: <9502091659.AA01940@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 95 11:59:22 EST
From: Bill Acito 09-Feb-1995 1127 <acito@asdg.enet.dec.com>

Subject: What is homebrew?

Chuck posted this back in December and I saved it, but it probably deserves a repost.

b

>From qrp-admin@Think.COM Fri Feb 11 21:27:17 1994
Date: Fri, 11 Feb 1994 20:26:43 -0600 (CST)
>From: Peter Hardie <hardie@herald.usask.ca>
Subject: Homebrew

I found the QRP ARCI definition of homebrew in the Jan 1992 issue of QQ. The homebrew bonus points only count for homebrew transmitters, receivers or transceivers (i.e. a homebrew antenna tuner or QRP power meter wouldn't count). The qualifying equipment must meet one of the following criteria:

I quote:

1. Completely home constructed gear, original design or a copy of another's design and not a kit.
2. "Kits" which do not include, or have available, a step-by-step construction manual (i.e. not a Heathkit).
3. Kits (such as Heathkit) or commercial gear that contains a major modification to improve or alter significantly its performance. Examples include redesigned front-ends, alteration of one band for another band, or complete repackaging and modification involving a change in use such as home-based to portability. Completely home-built transverters used with commercial gear also qualifies as homebrew. Cosmetic changes such as adding dial lights, commercial filters and larger control knobs do not qualify. A pure vanilla version of a Heathkit-type kit does not qualify.

The final decision as to homebrew qualification rests with the contest manager.

End quote. (I hope I have caught all my typos)

If you want to disagree with their definition, take it up with the current contest manager.

For ARCI contest entries you are required to describe your homebrew equipment, so if you feel your rig is homebrew I think you should claim the points, describe your rig(s) and let the contest manager decide if you deserve the homebrew bonus.

Pete

ve5va.qrp@usask.ca

KC1GS/qrp QRP-NE #260 ARRL Life Member

. . . . . .

- I own my own words -

+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+ Digital Equipment Corporation Bill Acito
|d|i|g|i|t|a|l| Digital Semiconductor, Fab 6
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+ Hudson, Massachusetts acito@asdg.enet.dec.com